

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 NIC-01 IO-13 RSR-01 EB-11

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R 091200 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4545

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0189

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, GB

SUBJ: NEW TEAM INSTALLED

1. PRESIDENT BONGO INAUGURATED AS PRESIDENT IN BRIEF 7 MARCH CEREMONY; NO SPEECHES.
 2. INAUGURAL SESSION OF NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TOOK PLACE 6 MARCH AND ASSEMBLY OFFICIALLY INSTALLED 7 MARCH. GEORGES DAMAS- ALEKA RE- ELECTED ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT.
 3. NEW CABINET ANNOUNCED AFTER 7 MARCH CEREMONIES. CHANGES PRODUCED FURTHER DIMINUTION OF FANG INFLUENCE AND DECLINE IN FORTUNES OF FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER LT. COL. RAPHAEL MAMIKA.
 4. FANG FADEOUT WAS EXPECTED. NEITHER AGRICULTURE MINISTER OBIANG EKOMIE, WHO DROPPED OUT, NOR MINISTER OF STATE NGUEMA- NDONG, WHO LOST SOME MORE SLOTS ARE PARTICULARLY HIGHLY REGARDED.
 5. SURPRISE SWITCH WAS MAMIKA TRADING KEY INTERIOR PORTFOLIO TO DEPUTY VICE- PRESIDENT JEAN STANILAS MIGOLET IN RETURN FOR RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT LABOR MINISTRY. POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR HIS AT LEAST
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TEMPORARY ECLIPSE IS MAKOKOU INCIDENT INVOLVING
EXPULSION OF THREE FRENCH PRIESTS (EMBTEL 145);
MAKOKOU IS IN MAMIKA'S HOME REGION AND FRENCH
EMBASSY IS KNOWN TO BELIEVE MAMIKA FALSIFIED REPORT
ON INCIDENT TO PUT BLAME ON FRENCH AND THUS ABSOLVE
HIMSELF OF ANY RESPONSIBILITY.

6. AFTER JANUARY NATIONAL CONGRESS AND FEBRUARY
ELECTION , GABON NOW GEARING UP FOR MARCH 12 FETE
DE LA REVOLUTION, ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF
BONGO'S PARTI DEMOCRATIQUE GABONAIS. AFTER TWO
MONTHS OF MAINTAINING STEADY HIGH PITCH OF ENTHU-
SIASM FOR ALL THINGS BONGO, GABONESE PEOPLE WILL
HOPEFULLY HAVE EARNED RESPITE.
LYNE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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TAGS: PGOV, GB
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PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005